

UXOs prompt mine awareness

By Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — As renovations continue to improve the quality of life for troops on Bagram, the reconstruction process has been digging up more than just rocks and rubble.

An unexploded ordnance was found outside of the Base Operations building Sunday making it the second one to be discovered in the past week.”

“Someone passing in front of Base Ops found a 115mm high explosive Russian projectile round sticking out of the sidewalk while walking on Disney (Drive) Sunday,” said Staff Sgt. Barri Peterson, Explosive Ordnance Disposal team leader, 797th Ordnance Company (EOD), Fort Sam Houston, Texas. “The round was defused, but we found a high explosive fuse by Viper City last week.”

As soon as EOD was notified, they went to work on removing the round.

“We first checked to see if the round was fused or defused and then proceeded to remove it from the ground,” said Peterson. “The round is being held and will be destroyed (tomorrow), with other UXOs.”

According to 1st Sgt. Gilbert Rodriguez, company first sergeant, more UXOs and mines are being discovered in the “cleared” areas on Bagram due to reconstruction.

“The more improvements are made, the more UXOs are going to be discovered,” said Rodriguez. “We don’t know how many more are buried out there, but as long as the reconstruction process continues, we are sure we are going to be getting more calls about UXOs in the populated areas.”

Even though mines and UXOs are still out there, Rodriguez said there are ways



Photo by Pfc. Terri Rorke

Getting it on tape...

Almin Karamahmedovic, picture editor for ABC, videotapes Afghan pupils in the all-male Bagram High School, just outside of Bagram Air Base. ABC News is currently visiting Afghanistan for a before and after report of the country. Karamahmedovic is on his third visit to Afghanistan after visiting in 2001 and 2002. “It is more stable. Kabul definitely has more improvements,” said Karamahmedovic.

Finance glitch smaller than originally anticipated

By Maj. Loren Darmofal
CJTF-180 Finance

CJTF-180 — The erroneous stop of deployment entitlements affected less soldiers than originally anticipated.

Less than 500 pay accounts of soldiers deployed in support of both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom were affected by the erroneous mass upload. This error affected approximately 100 soldiers who are currently deployed in support of Combined Joint Task Force-180.

These soldiers had their hostile fire pay,

combat zone tax exclusion and hardship duty pay location erroneously stopped.

CJTF-180 Finance is the process of restarting the appropriate entitlements by the mid month July pay day.

To lessen the financial burden of the erroneous collection, CJTF-180 finance offices will be able to make casual payments to the respective soldier’s direct deposit bank account up to the amount of the erroneous collection.

Soldiers interested in receiving CP’s should contact their servicing CJTF-180 finance office.

World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



Motorists maneuver a flooded Beach Boulevard in Waveland, Miss., on Monday.

Tropical Storm Bill drenches U.S. gulf coast

CNN — Tropical Storm Bill whipped onto the Louisiana coast Monday, its 55 mph winds letting loose heavy rains and spawning possible tornados as it moved across the New Orleans region and into neighboring Mississippi.

At 8 p.m. EDT, the center of the storm was about 65 miles south-southwest of McComb, Mississippi, and moving northeast at about 15 mph. It is expected to slow and turn to a north-northeasterly course later Monday evening, according to the National Hurricane Center.

Tropical storm warnings were in effect from Grand Isle, La., to Pascagoula, Miss. Flash flood watches covered the low-lying areas of southeastern Louisiana and southern Mississippi.

Renegades blamed for West Bank killing

GAZA CITY — Renegade members of Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades were blamed for killing a construction worker Monday as the group's leaders confirmed they had joined a cease-fire.

Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Fatah — which includes Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades — announced Sunday they would cease attacks on Israelis temporarily.

But Al Aqsa's commitment was called into question when some members claimed responsibility for shooting and killing a Bulgarian construction worker, Christo Radkov, 46, as he drove with a road crew near the village of Yabed, near Jenin, West Bank.

Iraqi interim official arrested in U.S. crackdown

BAGHDAD — U.S. troops arrested the interim governor of Najaf on kidnapping and corruption charges Monday as they continued efforts to quell attacks on coalition troops in Iraq.

The arrest of Abu Haydar Abdul Mun'im "demonstrates the coalition's determination to enforce the rule of law in Iraq," a statement from the U.S.-led provisional authority said. Mun'im's deputy will replace him as interim governor, the statement said.

Mun'im is accused of kidnapping and holding hostages, pressuring government employees to perform financial crimes, attacking a bank official and stealing funds, the statement said. Details of the charges were not released.

Poll: Support for Iraq war slipping

WASHINGTON — As a new poll shows Americans are taking a dimmer view of U.S.-led coalition efforts in Iraq, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said Monday that the fighting there would continue "for some time."

Only 56 percent of Americans view the current fighting as going well in Iraq, according to a new CNN/USA Today Gallup poll. That is much lower than the 70 percent in late May and the 86 percent in early May who thought the fighting was going well.

The poll has a margin of error of plus-or-minus 3 percentage points.

U.S. troops in Iraq have been conducting raids north of Baghdad since Sunday in a

sweep known as "Operation Sidewinder." The raids are the latest effort to stop hit-and-run attacks that have killed 23 Americans and six British soldiers since President Bush declared the end of major combat May 1.

U.S. considering role in Liberia

WASHINGTON — Under pressure from the United Nations and the international community, the United States is "actively considering" how to support an international peacekeeping force in war-torn Liberia, the State Department said Monday.

"The situation in Liberia is of major concern to us," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said. "We have been actively discussing how we can best support international efforts to help Liberia."

Boucher's comments followed an appeal Saturday by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan for the Security Council to send a multinational force to Liberia "to prevent a major humanitarian tragedy."

Florida siblings found

BONIFAY, Fla. — Two children whose mother allegedly abducted them in the middle of the night by crashing a car through a sliding glass door have been found safe, police said Monday.

The children's parents are in police custody.

Nora Montano, her two children and their father were found at a hotel in the Florida Panhandle town of Bonifay, said Bill Robertson of the Miramar Police Department.

Canada Day

Today Canada celebrates its 136th year since Confederation.

Before 1982 Canada Day had been known as Dominion Day, First of July, Confederation Day, and July the First.

Canada Day celebrates the events that occurred on July 1, 1867, when the British North America Act created the Canadian federal government. The BNA Act proclaimed "one Dominion under the name of Canada," hence the original title of the holiday, "Dominion Day." Dominion Day was officially renamed "Canada Day" by an Act of Parliament on Oct. 27, 1982. This change reflected the policy of successive governments to downplay Canada's colonial origins.

Canada's national celebration is always observed on July 1, unless that date falls on a Sunday, in which case it is observed the following day.

Non-battle injuries cause for concern

By Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Of all casualties in training and conflicts, 80 percent of them are non battle injuries, so they are a main concern in this environment.

These injuries can come from critters, plants or the environment.

The four main critters to look out for here are sand flies, mosquitoes, scorpions and snakes.

Sandflies

Sand flies are a concern because they carry the disease, Leishmaniasis, a parasite that moves into the blood causing sores that won't heal. The sand flies lay eggs in soil with organic material such as trash, feces and urine.

Sand flies "fly" in short hops so anything low to the ground is their target. These are a considerable problem in Kandahar.

Mosquitoes

Mosquitoes may carry Malaria.

The symptoms of Malaria include high, cyclic fevers and body aches. Doctors draw blood to see the organisms living in the red blood cells and diagnose the disease. The disease continues to progress until it overwhelms a person and they die.

Just because servicemembers don't see a lot of mosquitoes, doesn't mean they should stop taking their Malaria medication.

Scorpions

Scorpions cause apprehension because they are venomous and like to hide in cool places. A sting is usually not deadly, but soldiers should still shake out their clothes and bedding. Scorpions are not aggressive, but

will sting if disturbed. Servicemembers who have sensitivity to bee stings should be extra careful of these critters because they will have sensitivity to their sting as well. If a scorpion is spotted, notify preventive medicine.

Snakes are a danger because there are 11 venomous snakes in Afghanistan. If a servicemember finds a snake they should contact PM and not try to catch or kill it.

"A lot of snake related injuries result from people trying to kill one. Snakes here are more venomous and faster than people may be used to in the States," said 1st Lt. Lewis Long, entomologist, 1469th Medical Detachment, Gainesville, Fla.

Flies

Flies are also a health concern.

"Flies are one of the reasons it's so important to wash your hands. They land in the (porta potty) or on a trash pile, then they land (somewhere) and you touch where it landed. This is why it is so important to wash your hands before eating," said Long.

To help prevent flies servicemembers should put their trash in a bag and tie it, put lids on trash cans and use fly paper.

Camel Spiders

One critter Long thinks servicemembers should be least concerned about is Camel Spiders.

"They have gotten a nasty (reputation) through word of mouth. They are aggressive and can bite, but if you leave them alone, they'll leave you alone. They are more beneficial alive than dead," said Long. "They will clean house — getting rid of scorpions and ants."

There are other insects that are a problem, but not a concern of PM. These nuisance in-

sects include ants and moths. They are not a health risk, but if their reason to be around is minimized, servicemembers should not have a problem with them.

Plants

Servicemembers should treat every plant as if it's poisonous.

"This area has been understudied so not a lot is known about the plants here ... A plant may not look like poison ivy, but it may cause the same reaction," said Long.

Heat injuries

The most serious non battle injuries are caused by the heat. These include heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Heat cramps and heat exhaustion symptoms include cramps, muscle fatigue, dizziness and nausea. Heat stroke usually includes clammy skin, decreased mental ability and disorientation.

"The symptoms can come on so rapidly by the time you realize it, it can be serious or deadly," said Long.

Long also suggests servicemembers use the work/rest chart when working outside. The heat category is checked hourly by PM and posted outside the Combat Support Hospital.

Prior heat casualties should be identified because they are 80 percent more likely to suffer another.

Servicemembers taking dietary supplement should also be aware of their hydration because the supplement makes it necessary to take in more fluids.

If servicemembers have any questions concerning critters, plants or any non battle injury they may visit PM in the hospital or call (318)231-4641.

UXO, from Page 1

troops can protect themselves and take the proper precautions.

"If an area looks as if no one has walked through it in quite some time, stay clear of it," said Rodriguez. "Don't cross any wires around the perimeter that have been set up to keep people out, and heed signs and markings that indicate mines are in the area."

If someone comes across a UXO or mine in a populated area, they should first do two things.

"The first thing that someone should do if they encounter a UXO is make sure people stay out of the area," said Rodriguez. "Mark the area where the UXO is located or leave someone behind with the ordnance while the military police or base operations are

called."

"Once EOD has been called, people need to stay out of the area that is being cleared," added Peterson. "It makes our job much easier when all we have to concentrate on is the UXO and not the number of people in the area."

According to Rodriguez, being unaware of the situation is what causes unwanted accidents.

"Afghanistan is still one of the five top countries in the world for land mine concentration and troops need to be aware of this while performing their daily duties," said Rodriguez. "The situation is still very hazardous and troops need to proceed with caution even when walking in areas that have already been cleared. You never know when something may pop up."

Soldiers help train Fallujah police

By Spc. Katherine Robinson and Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
Army News Service

FALLUJAH, Iraq—Military police and other 3rd Infantry Division soldiers are helping train the police force in Fallujah, a city about 30 miles west of Baghdad that has been a hotbed of opposition to the coalition.

The 3rd MP Company handed out new uniforms and pistols to 200 officers during a ceremony at the city's main police precinct June 23.

"With these gestures, we hope to forge a new relationship between the U.S. and Iraq that will last for years to come," said Capt. Joseph Hissim, 3rd MP Co. commander, during his remarks at the ceremony.

The uniforms were comprised of Air Force dress trousers and short, locally purchased belts, an Iraqi Police brassard and a .38 caliber Special revolver pistol.

The reason for the uniform change was to get away from the green uniforms symbolic of the former regime, said 1st Lt. Steven Devitt, a platoon leader in the 3rd MPs.

Members of the Fallujah Police Department said they are eager to return to work and a peaceful way of life.

"Being a police officer has been my life," said Officer Kosai Esam Awni, via an interpreter.

In mid-June, 12 vehicles were distributed to three police precincts around the city. Each vehicle, painted white with blue doors and marked FPD, will also have an automatic weapon kept inside for the officer's safety.

Staff Sgt. Sean Sullivan, a team sergeant with B Company, 411th Civil Affairs Battalion, has been teaching classes at the Fallujah police station every morning.

Before he was activated, Sullivan worked as a police instructor in Springfield, Mass., so he said the training comes easily to him.

(Spc. Katherine Robinson and Sgt. Craig Zentkovich are journalists with the 50th PAD in Iraq.)

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "The Hunted." An FBI deep-woods tracker captures a trained assassin who has made a sport of hunting humans.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Analyze That."



Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Wednesday
Bagram:	Scattered t-storms H: 95F L: 57F	Clear H: 95F L: 64F
Kandahar:	Dust H: 104F L: 72F	Haze H: 106F L: 73F
Kabul:	Dust H: 95F L: 64F	Haze H: 97F L: 66F
Uzbekistan:	Partly cloudy H: 102F L: 61F	Dust H: 104F L: 64F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Informant says ex-teammate shot Dennehy in head

WACO, Texas — A police informant told authorities that missing Baylor University basketball player Patrick Dennehy was shot in the head with a 9 mm handgun by a former teammate after the two had an argument, according to court documents released Monday.

The teammate and former roommate, Carlton Dotson, told a cousin that he got in an argument with Dennehy while they were shooting guns in the Waco area and that Dennehy pointed a gun at Dotson as if to shoot him, the informant said.

But Dotson instead shot Dennehy in the head with the pistol, the informant said. Dotson said he then drove home to Hurlock, Md., and got rid of the guns along the way, the informant said.

The search warrant affidavit released Monday was filed June 23 in McLennan County by Waco police detective Bob Fuller.

District Attorney John Segrest declined to comment Monday, referring questions to Waco police. Fuller did not return a phone call to The Associated Press on Monday.

Hurricanes spurn Big East

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — Loyalty and money weren't enough to keep Miami from bolting the Big East. The Hurricanes believe their future is more secure in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Ending a seven-week courtship, Miami accepted the ACC's invitation Monday, rejecting a better financial offer from the Big East to stay put.

"Ready or not, here we come," Miami president Donna Shalala told Clemson president James Barker.

Miami's decision to join Virginia Tech in defecting from the Big East dramatically alters the balance of power in the conferences. The ACC adds two of the nation's strongest football programs; the Big East is left with a big void.

"It has been a bizarre, strange, and goofy process," Shalala said. "But it has allowed us the opportunity to give ourselves some distance, so that we got a view of who we are, where we are and where we want to be."



Dennehy started at New Mexico but never played a game for Baylor.

Philippoussis serves up big upset

WIMBLEDON, England — The ace race was one-sided, the match much closer. Andre Agassi lost them both.

The top-ranked Agassi was overpowered Monday by unseeded Mark Philippoussis, who tied a Wimbledon record with 46 aces and pulled off a fourth-round upset, 6-3, 2-6, 6-7 (4), 6-3, 6-4.

The defeat ended Agassi's bid at 33 to become the oldest men's champion at Wimbledon in the Open era.

"Everyone was expecting him to win, and that's a great position to be in," Philippoussis said.

Agassi hit 10 aces and kept the match close by overcoming 18 of 21 break points on his serve, but he converted only two of 11 break-point chances himself. Philippoussis repeatedly came up with big serves on important points — and against a player whose service return may be the best ever.

Philippoussis, who has 119 aces in four matches, earned his fourth quarterfinal berth at Wimbledon. He has never advanced further.

The Australian's serves topped out at 134 mph, and his ace total tied Goran Ivanisevic's mark in a second-round loss to Magnus Norman in 1997.

"I felt like I made him earn it," Agassi said. "There were a lot of moments where either one of us could have taken the match, and he ended up doing it at the end."

Knicks, Celtics discussing Walker deal

ESPN — New York Knicks fans have been so desperate for a trade, they were heard chanting at the NBA draft for a swap involving team president Scott Layden.

Well, Layden reportedly is eyeing a different kind of deal. And no telling what fans would make of it.

According to the New York Daily News, which cites a league source, the Knicks and Celtics have had serious discussions in recent days about a deal involving Boston All-Star forward Antoine Walker.

The newspaper reports a potential deal may include Latrell Sprewell, whose contract matches Walker's, or that possibly Boston hopes to cut payroll and would look at players with lesser salaries, including Kurt Thomas.

A third team might be needed to complete the deal, the paper reported.

Walker, who turns 27 this summer, has averaged 20.8 points and 8.7 rebounds in seven NBA seasons. He struggled mightily, however, these last playoffs when Kenyon Martin outplayed him during the Nets' second-round sweep of Boston.

SPORTS, from Page 5

Boras, Wade won't talk during All-Star break

ESPN — Phillies pitcher Kevin Millwood has had second thoughts about holding a round of contract negotiations with the Phillies during the All-Star break.

Millwood's agent, Scott Boras, and Phillies general manager Ed Wade both confirmed Monday to ESPN.com that the two sides don't plan to talk during the break because, according to Boras, "we want to keep Kevin focused."

Wade said that Millwood originally had "indicated a willingness to get together," and Wade had even looked into calling off his scheduled trip to the All Star Game. But Wade said he then got a phone message from Boras saying that Millwood wanted to stay away from any contract distractions "at this point." And Millwood reiterated that sentiment personally when the two talked a few days ago in Atlanta.

But Wade also said he didn't consider this development to be "a cancellation or a postponement of anything." He said there had only been some informal "discussion" with Millwood about negotiating during the break, but nothing had ever been firmly scheduled.

The Phillies' response, Wade said, was to let Millwood know that "the organization is ready, willing and, hopefully, able to move forward that at any point Kevin feels he's ready. And I told him that when he *is* ready, to let me know."

Duncan plans to work new Spurs deal

SAN ANTONIO — San Antonio Spurs star Tim Duncan plans to sign a long-term deal with the 2003 NBA champions, his agent said Monday.

Duncan, the league's MVP the last two seasons, decided not to exercise a player option in his current four-year contract, meaning he will become a free agent.

But that doesn't mean the 7-foot forward is thinking about going anywhere else.

"He will enter into discussions with the Spurs as soon as he is able to," Lon Babby, Duncan's agent, said. "Tim intends to resign with the Spurs once the details of a long-term deal can be finalized."

Babby said Duncan does not expect to even talk to other NBA teams before settling back in with San Antonio.

Owens, Sharpie team up for charity

SAN FRANCISCO — Terrell Owens was only looking for a laugh when he pulled a pen from his sock and autographed a football in the end zone.

When Greg Stoner noticed the brand name on that pen, the vice president and general manager of Sharpie knew he was looking at an opportunity.

Owens' stunt in Seattle last October became a defining moment for the San Francisco 49ers' controversial All-Pro receiver. Many were amused when he caught a touchdown pass, autographed the ball and presented it to his financial adviser in

the front row — but others, including many Seahawks, called it poor sportsmanship.

Oddly enough, the brouhaha also sparked one of the most serendipitous athlete-sponsor relationships in recent history between Owens and the makers of Sharpie pens.

On Tuesday in Atlanta, Owens' adopted hometown, the receiver and the pen-makers will begin a nationwide charity campaign bringing money and supplies to schools — all thanks to Owens' choice of writing instruments.

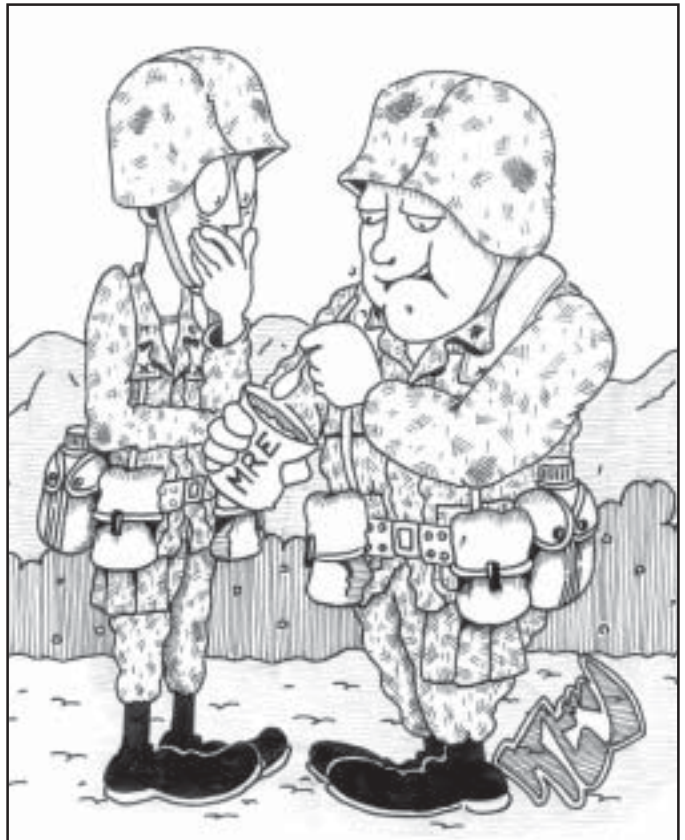
Davis OK after suffering multiple gunshot wounds

DALLAS — Cowboys defensive back Keith Davis and another man suffered multiple gunshot wounds early Sunday at a Dallas topless club, authorities said.

Davis, 24, was shot in the right hip and left hand about 2:20 a.m. outside the Dallas Gentlemen's Club on Northwest Highway. He and a club security guard, Jacquois Thompson, 29, were taken to Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas. Davis was treated and released at 7:33 a.m.

Davis' fiancée, Amber Davis, 31, said later in the day that he was doing "fine."

"Ahh, just like mom used to make."



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support